

GENERAL SESSION MINUTES
Idaho State Bar Board of Commissioners
October 1, 2025
Boise, Idaho

President Kristin Bjorkman called the business meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Idaho State Bar to order at 8:40 a.m. at the Law Center in Boise, Idaho. In attendance at that time were Commissioners Kristin Bjorkman, FJ Hahn (via Zoom), the Hon. Robert Jackson, Patty Weeks, Leslie Hayes, and Executive Director Maureen Ryan Braley, who acted as secretary. Bar Counsel Joe Pirtle and Assistant Bar Counsel Samantha Lundberg also attended the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Consistent with the authority granted in Idaho Code § 3-408, and under the supervisory power of the Idaho Supreme Court and acting as an agency thereof for purposes of Idaho Code § 74-202(4)(a), it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Board move into a confidential session to discuss matters involving admission and professional discipline as provided under Idaho Bar Commission Rules 223 and 521. It was also moved, seconded, and passed, after an aye vote was recorded of each Commissioner, to move into Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(b), (d) and (f), to: (1) consider an evaluation of an employee; (2) review personal records of attorneys for licensing purposes; (3) consider information obtained as part of an inquiry into an individual's fitness to practice law; and (4) discuss with legal counsel pending and/or potential litigation.

The Board moved into Executive Session at 8:40 a.m. The Board moved out of Executive Session at 10:57 a.m. and into the General Session.

Upon motion, a second, and a roll call vote, the Board moved back into Executive Session at 1:59 p.m. The Board moved out of Executive Session after a roll call vote at 3:03 p.m.

GENERAL SESSION

Minutes – It was moved, seconded, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the General Session minutes of the Board of Commissioners meeting on September 4, 2025.

2025 Resolutions – The Commissioners considered the resolutions for presentation during the 2025 resolution process, including a new resolution addressing the bar examination passing score. The Commissioners discussed edits to the resolution regarding pro hac vice fees and agreement to comply with the Idaho Rules of Professional Conduct and the Standards for Civility in Professional Conduct. The Commissioners also discussed edits to the resolution addressing changes to business entity statutes in the Idaho Code. Upon motion, duly seconded, the Commissioners approved by unanimous vote to submit six resolutions to the membership for a vote during the 2025 resolution process. The Commissioners divided the responsibilities for presenting the resolutions at each of the Roadshow locations.

ABA Delegate Report – Kendall Bjornsen and Jonathan Shirts provided the Commissioners with a report of the ABA's August 2025 meeting in Toronto. Ms. Bjornsen discussed the Young Lawyer Division's adoption of resolutions regarding due process, free speech and reassessing delegate

numbers due to declining membership. Idaho's delegate numbers are not expected to change. Ms. Bjornsen also discussed a bullying assessment resolution and a resolution encouraging a federal election day.

Mr. Shirts discussed a proposed change to Governing Board seats that could mean Idaho's seat on the Governing Board comes up every 12 years instead of every 9 years. He also discussed a resolution for the Pacific territories being treated as "states" and therefore having more influence. Mr. Shirts also discussed a resolution allowing mandatory bar delegates to personally participate (record and sponsor resolutions) without doing so on behalf of their mandatory bar. After discussion from the Commissioners and Ms. Braley, Mr. Shirts and Ms. Bjornsen confirmed that they envision discussing any planned personal participation with the Commissioners before they take such action.

Meeting with District Bar Officers – At 12:10 p.m. (Mountain), the Commissioners met by Zoom with the District Bar officers from each District except the First District. The Commissioners summarized the six resolutions for the 2025 resolution process. Tyler Rounds on behalf of the Third District moved to approve the slate of resolutions as proposed by the Commissioners. Mr. Rounds amended his motion to find that each resolution is not clearly outside the scope of the Idaho State Bar's authority. Tyler Rands on behalf of the Fifth District seconded the amended motion. "The Tylers' Motion" was approved by unanimous vote of the Commissioners and the District Bar officers in attendance. At 1:00 (Mountain) / 12:00 (Pacific), Julia Schoffstall joined the meeting as the First District's officer delegate and apologized for the confusion with the time zone difference.

BOC Conference Attendance Policy – The Commissioners discussed revisions to the BOC Conference Attendance Policy. Commissioner Hayes discussed studying the impacts on costs from the revised attendance policy, which would allow multiple Commissioners to attend conferences. The Commissioners also discussed the fact that the policy did not appear to have been followed for years. Upon motion, duly seconded, the Commissioners unanimously approved suspending the policy.

Seventh District Magistrate Commission Appointment – Commissioner Hahn discussed interest in the position by Shan Perry. Ms. Braley indicated that the Seventh District nominated Jordan Crane after a recent meeting and soliciting applicants. Upon motion, duly seconded, the Commissioners approved by unanimous vote the appointment of Jordan Crane to the Magistrate Commission.

July 2025 Bar Exam Results – The Commissioners discussed the results of the recent Bar Exam. The passage rate of 81.1% was the highest since July 2013.

NextGen Bar Exam Task Force Update – The Commissioners considered and discussed the update report from Licensing Director Abby Kostecka. Ms. Braley will be more involved with the Task Force and expects to have updates on grading guidelines after the Task Force's next meeting.

MCLE Task Force Update – The Commissioners considered and discussed the update report from Licensing Director Abby Kostecka. Commissioner Hahn discussed his involvement with this

Task Force and a planned survey to assess where Idaho fits relative to its neighbors. Ms. Braley plans to be more involved with this Task Force as well moving forward.

Northwest Bar Leaders Conference – The Commissioners discussed the upcoming conference. Commissioners Jackson and Weeks plan to attend along with Ms. Braley.

LAP Committee Appointment – Ms. Baker proposed the appointment of Moscow attorney Robyn McPherson to the LAP Committee. After discussion, it was moved, seconded, and approved by unanimous vote of the Commissioners.

Financials – The Commissioners discussed the July 2025 financials. President Bjorkman discussed her recent meeting with Craig Kenyon and Ms. Braley to better understand revenue and expense fluctuations for regulation, member services (Annual Meeting) and administration. Discussion was had about employee costs primarily driving expenses. Discussion was also had of the balance sheet assets being down at this point for 2025, which was anticipated and budgeted for a loss.

2026 Annual Meeting Proposal – The Commissioners discussed the 2026 Annual Meeting proposal, with the Annual Meeting being held in June, and award recipients to be considered at the Board's February 2026 meeting.

Advocate Article Schedule – Discussion was had about the Commissioner's column schedule for The Advocate for the rest of 2025 and the first quarter of 2026.

BOC Meeting and Event Schedule – The Commissioners discussed the schedule for the remainder of 2025 and the proposed schedule for 2026. The Commissioners agreed to move their February 2026 meeting to February 18.

Salary Adjudgment for Executive Director and Bar Counsel – Upon motion, duly seconded, the Commissioners approved by unanimous vote salary increases of 5% for the Executive Director and Bar Counsel, respectively.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Ryan Braley
Executive Director